

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed December 24, 2009, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration. To further the prosecution of this application, amendments have been made in the claims, and each of the rejections set forth in the Office Action has been carefully considered and is addressed below. The claims as presented are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-6 were previously pending in the application. Claims 1-4 and 6 are amended. No claims are added or cancelled. As a result, claims 1-6 remain pending for examination, with claims 1 and 6 being independent. No new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Each of independent claims 1 and 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as purportedly being anticipated by Japanese Patent No. 406083296 to Aoyanagi ("Aoyanagi"). As presented herein, each of independent claims 1 and 6 patentably distinguishes over Aoyanagi.

A. Claim 1

Amended claim 1 recites an information-providing apparatus comprising, *inter alia*, vibration detecting means detecting vibration of not smaller than a predetermined level produced on image display means, and sending a detection output signal when said vibration is greater than said predetermined level. The predetermined level is greater than an absence of vibration. The apparatus further comprises an operation control means for modifying a display mode of information from a first display mode to a second display mode, when receipt of said detection output signal over a predetermined duration of positive length indicates that the vibration of greater than said predetermined level produced on said image display means sustains over the predetermined duration; and modifying the display mode of the information from the second display mode to the first display mode when an absence of output of said detection output signal is detected over a predetermined duration of positive length.

Aoyanagi fails to satisfy all of the limitations of amended claim 1. For example, Aoyanagi does not disclose or suggest vibration detecting means detecting vibration of not smaller than a predetermined level, with the predetermined level being greater than an absence of vibration, and sending a detection output signal when the vibration is greater than said predetermined level, as recited by claim 1.

Aoyanagi discloses an in-vehicle video display device in which the position of a graphical display is moved to offset displacement caused by vehicle vibration (§[0006]). The device compares the position of the graphical display on a frame-by-frame basis to identify whether any displacement has occurred, and if so, how much (§[0008]). If any displacement is detected, the position of the graphical display is shifted along the x and/or y axes to offset the displacement (§[0009]). Aoyanagi discloses only detecting whether vibration is zero or non-zero, and if it is non-zero, counteracting its effects on a graphical display. Aoyanagi does not disclose or suggest detecting that a vibration is not smaller than a level which is itself greater than an absence of vibration (i.e., non-zero), and if so, sending a detection output signal, as claim 1 requires.

Consequently, Aoyanagi necessarily fails to disclose or suggest modifying a display mode of information presented by a first display mode to a second display mode when receipt of the detection output signal over a predetermined duration of positive length indicates that the vibration not smaller than the predetermined level sustains over the predetermined duration, as recited by claim 1.

As Aoyanagi fails to satisfy all of the limitations of amended claim 1, claim 1 patentably distinguishes over Aoyanagi, such that the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as purportedly being anticipated by Aoyanagi should be withdrawn.

Claims 2-5 depend from claim 1 and are allowable for at least the same reasons.

B. Claim 6

Amended claim 6 recites a method of providing information allowing image display of information which assists travel of a mobile object. The method comprises, *inter alia*, detecting

vibration not smaller than a predetermined level, and sending a detection output signal when the vibration is not smaller than the predetermined level, the predetermined level being greater than an absence of vibration. A display mode of information is modified from a first display mode to a second display mode when receipt of the detection output signal over a predetermined duration of positive length indicates that the vibration of not smaller than the predetermined level sustains over the predetermined duration.

It should be appreciated from the discussion above relating to claim 1 that Aoyanagi does not disclose or suggest detecting vibration not smaller than a predetermined level which is greater than an absence of vibration, and sending a detection output signal when the vibration is not smaller than the predetermined level, as recited by claim 6. Consequently, Aoyanagi necessarily fails to disclose or suggest modifying a display mode of the information from a first display mode to a second display mode when receipt of the detection output signal over a predetermined duration of positive length indicates that the vibration of not smaller than the predetermined level sustains over the predetermined duration, as recited by claim 6.

Claim 6 thus patentably distinguishes over Aoyanagi, such that the rejection of claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as purportedly being anticipated by Aoyanagi should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below if this communication does not place the case in condition for allowance.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the fees filed, asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith to our Deposit Account No. 23/2825, under Docket No. S1459.70115US00 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: 2-18-10

Respectfully submitted,

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